GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2641
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2016
Setting up of Waste-to-Energy Plants
Agrawal Shri Rajendra

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of waste to energy plants currently operational in the country, State/UT-wise;
(b) whether the Government proposes to set up more waste-to-energy plants in the country and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the waste-to-energy plants which are currently operational use mixed waste instead of dry waste and if so, whether they are detrimental to the environment and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) whether the proposed plants are also intended to use mixed waste and if so, whether this could have a further detrimental impact on the environment and if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL, NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY & MINES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): 33 Waste to Energy (WtE) Plants with a cumulative installed capacity of over 275 MW are currently operational in the country as per State/UT wise details given at Annexure − I.

(b): Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is currently implementing a Programme on Energy from Urban, Industrial and Agricultural Wastes/Residues. The programme supports setting up of 5 pilot projects based on Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), besides projects based on urban, industrial and agricultural wastes/residues and provides for Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for projects of different categories as per details given at Annexure - II.

In addition to the above, Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) has also launched Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) and one of the admissible components under this is Solid Waste Management including establishment of Waste to Energy (WtE) plants with Central support up to 35% of the project cost in the form of Viability Gap Funding (VGF)/Grant.

(c)&(d): WtE plants that are currently operational in the country are based on thermal (mass incineration/RDF burning) technology or on biological (biomethanation) technology. Dry mixed waste is used in projects based on thermal conversion technology whereas source segregated wet waste is used in projects based on biological conversion technology. Both the technologies do not have any adverse impact on the environment and emissions remain within the limits prescribed by Central Pollution Control Board. The details of Environmental Footprints from different WtE technologies, as per report published by NITI Aayog in May 2014, are given at Annexure - III.
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